

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 45, line 10, with the following paragraph:

② Pick-upPush-up Member 96

The pick-uppush-up member 96 is provided with a thickened vertical plate piece 96a being widened in the width direction of the horizontal base 31, and has a lower end portion 96b bent in L-shape in the other end side direction. The L-shaped vertical plate piece 96a had an upper end edge to which a tube shaft passage 96c is formed. The tube shaft passage 96c has a shaft extending horizontally in the length direction of the upper end edge of the vertical plate piece 96a and an insertion shaft 96d being passes-passed through the tube shaft passage 96c. Both ends of the insertion shaft 96d are horizontally engaged, to be rotatable, with the shaft holes 95e opened to the adjacent wall sections 95d of the vertically movable member 95. According to this arrangement, the pick-uppush-up member 96 is suspended to be rotatable between both the adjacent wall sections 95d of the vertically movable member 95, and the lower end portion 96b contacts a portion of the plate surface at one end side of the vertical portion 92b of the plate spring wall sensor 92.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 46, line 4, with the following paragraph:

The inclination surface projection 97 is formed so that a portion of the upper surface of the horizontal bottom plate 43 of the mount case body 41 projects vertically in the feeder mount passage 51 between the first side wall section 44 and the second side wall section 45. The horizontal bottom plate 43 is formed, at its other end side, with the staple lowering slit opening 48. The inclination surface projection 97 has a front end surface contacting the staple lowering slit opening 48. The staple lowering slit opening 48 has a groove width between an opening edge of one end side and an opening edge of the other end side, and the front end surface of the inclination surface projection 97 is mated with the opening edge of the one end side of the staple lowering slit opening 48. Further, the lower end of the pick-up push-up member 96 contacts the upper portion of the inclination

surface projection 97.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 46, line 21, with the following paragraph:

The inclination surface projection 97 has a staged structure. That is, two steps of upper step surface 97a and intermediate step surface 97b as upward facing surfaces corresponding to foot steps of a corridor are vertically formed. The upper and intermediate step surfaces 97a and 97b have their border of a step-up surface 97c extending in the perpendicular direction, and on both sides of this border step-up surface 97c, the upper step surface 97a is directed to one end side, and the intermediate step surface 97b is directed to the other end side. To the L-shaped corner portion between the intermediate step surface 97b and the step-up surface 97c, the lower end portion 96b of the pick-up push-up member 96 is contacted. Further, the step-up surface 97c is provided with an upward inclination which is face to the other end side direction.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 47, line 9, with the following paragraph:

The intermediate step surface 97b is formed as a lower dead center of the pick-up push-up member 96. When the plate spring wall sensor 92 pushes the lower end portion 96b of the pick-up push-up member 96 horizontally against the inclination surface projection 97, the pick-up push-up member 96 moves upward along the inclined pick-up surface 97c thereof.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 47, line 16, with the following paragraph:

④ Vertical Coil Spring 98

The vertical coil spring 98 serves to generate an elastic force in the vertical direction, and its lower end engages with the upper end portion of the vertically movable member 95 and

its upper end contacts the lower surface of the horizontal portion 92a of the plate spring wall sensor 92. That is, the one end side wall section 95c of the vertically movable member 95 is provided, at its upper end, with a coil spring engaging projection 95f projecting upward, ~~and its lower end is inserted through the coil spring engaging projection 95f and the coil spring engaging projections 95f is inserted into the lower end of the vertical coil spring 98.~~ According to this structure, the vertical coil spring 98 serves to elastically suppress the upward movement of the vertically movable member 95 connected to the ~~pick-up push-up~~ member 96 along the inclining surface of the inclination surface projection 97.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 51, line 12, with the following paragraph:

The reverse movement stop feeder 110 is disposed inside the cassette case body 105. The reverse movement stop feeder 110 connects elastically a proceeding piece 111 to a following (follow-up) piece 112 following the proceeding piece 111 by means of elastic coupling portion 113. The slide returning movement in the one end side direction and the coming-off from one end side are prevented by an irregular (concave-convex) portion 106 (to be described later) of the cassette case body 105.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 58, line 3, with the following paragraph:

When the upper horizontal portion 121a of the most other end side staple 121 invades into the staple lowering slit 94, the vertical portion 92b of the plate spring wall sensor 92 is pushed toward the one end side, and the usually closed staple lowering slit 94 is opened. When the vertical portion 92b of the plate spring wall sensor 92 is pushed toward the one end side, the lower end portion 96b of the contacting ~~pick-up push-up~~ member 96 is pushed against the step-up surface 97c of the inclination surface projection 97. The ~~pick-up push-up~~ member 96 moves upward along the inclined step-up surface 97c. In association with this motion, the vertically

movable member 95 moves upward. The vertically movable member 95 is moved along the guide slit of the first inside wall section 52 and the guide slit of the second inside wall section 53. According to this motion, the vertical movement projection 95a also moves upward. The vertical movement projection 95a projects in the advance passage of the staple 122 after the second one to thereby stop the advancing of the staple after the second staple 122.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 59, line 12, with the following paragraph:

When the staple has been come off from the staple lowering slit 94, the vertical portion of the plate spring wall sensor 92 returns to the original position. The vertical coil spring 98 depresses elastically downward the vertically movable member 95. Then, the pick-up-push-up member 96 is also moved downward, and the lower end 96b of the pick-up-push-up member 96 lowers on the inclining surface of the inclination surface projection 97 and contacts the one end side plate surface of the vertical portion 92b of the plate spring wall sensor 92.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 61, line 17, with the following paragraph:

When the connected staple assembly cassette 100 is drawn off from the cassette insertion port 50 of the mount case body 41, the pusher piece 73 returns to one end of the mount case body 41. The pusher piece is then moved downward through the mount port of the feed mechanism 70 and returned to the original position under the guidance of the guide projection 95b-74e of the horizontal lock door 74a. When the connected staple assembly cassette 100 is removed, the mount sensor 71 returns to the original position, and the first stop arm 71g and the second stop arm 71h also returns to the original positions.